NUMB. CCCXXV.

The SPECTATOR.

—Quid fruſtra Simulacra fugacia captas?
Quod petis, eſt nuſquam: quod amas avertere, perdes.
Iſta repercuſſæ quam cernis imaginis umbra eſt,
Nil habet iſta ſui; tecum venitque, manetque,
Tecum diſcedet ſi tu diſcedere poſſis. Ovid.

Thurſday, March 13. 1712.

WILL. HONEYCOMB diverted us laſt Night with an Account of a young Fellow's firſt diſcovering his Paſſion to his Miſtreſs. The young Lady was one, it ſeems, who had long before conceived a favourable Opinion of him, and was ſtill in Hopes that he would in time or other make his Advances. As he was one Day talking with her in Company of her two Siſters, the Converſation happening to turn upon what each of the young Ladies was, by way of Raillery, recommending a Wife to him; when, to the no ſmall Surprize of her who languiſhed for him in ſecret, he told them with a more than ordinary Seriouſneſs, That his Heart had been long engaged to one whoſe Name he thought himſelf obliged in Honour to conceal; but that he could ſhew her Picture in the Lid of his Snuff-Box. The young Lady, who found her ſelf the moſt tenderly touched by this Confeſſion, took the firſt Opportunity that offered of ſnatching his Box out of his Hand. He ſeemed deſirous of recovering it; but finding her reſolved to look into the Lid, told her, that if ſhe ſhould happen to know the Perſon, ſhe would not reveal her Name. Upon holding it to the Window ſhe was very agreeably ſurprized to find there was nothing within the Lid but a little looking Glaſs; in which, after ſhe had ſeen her own Face, with more Pleaſure than ſhe had ever done before, ſhe returned the Box with a Smile, telling him, She could not but admire his Choice.

WILL. fancying that his Story took, immediately fell into a Diſſertation on the Uſefulneſs of Looking-Glaſſes, and applying himſelf to me, asked me, Were there any Looking-Glaſſes in the Times of the *Greeks* and *Romans*; for that he had often obſerved in the Tranſlations of Poems out of thoſe Languages, that People generally talked of ſeeing themſelves in Wells, Fountains, Lakes and Rivers: As for his part, he remembered Mr. *Dryden* in his *Ovid* ſpeaks of a ſwingeing Fellow called *Polypheme*, who made uſe of the Sea for his Looking-Glaſs, and could never dreſs himſelf to Advantage but in a Storm.

My Friend WILL. to ſhew us the whole Compaſs of his Learning upon this Subject, further informed us, that there were ſtill ſeveral Nations in the World ſo very barbarous as not to have any Looking-Glaſſes among them; and that he had lately read a Voyage to the South-Sea, in which it is ſaid, that the Ladies of *Chili* always dreſs their Heads over a Baſon of Water.

I am the more particular in my Account of WILL's laſt Night's Lecture on theſe natural Mirrors, as it ſeems to bear ſome Relation to the following Letter, which I received the Day before.

SIR,

'I Have read your laſt *Saturday*'s Obſervations, 'on the fourth Book of *Milton* with great Sa-'tisfaction, and am particularly pleaſed with the 'hidden Moral, which you have taken notice of 'in ſeveral Parts of the Poem. The Deſign of this 'Letter is to deſire your Thoughts, whether there may 'not alſo be ſome Moral couched under that Place 'in the ſame Book where the Poet lets us know, 'that the firſt Woman immediately after her Crea-'tion, ran to a Looking-glaſs, and became ſo en-'amoured of her own Face, that ſhe had never re-'removed to view any of the other Works of 'Nature, had not ſhe been led off to a Man. If 'you think fit to ſet down the whole Paſſage from '*Milton*, your Readers will be able to judge for 'themſelves, and the Quotation will not a little 'contribute to the filling up of your Paper.

Your Humble Servant,

R. T.

The

The last Consideration urged by my Querist, is so strong, that I cannot forbear closing with it. The Passage he alludes to is Part of *Eve*'s Speech to *Adam*, and one of the most Beautiful Passages in the whole Poem.

That day I oft remember, when from sleep
I first awak'd, and found my self repos'd
Under a shade of flours, much wondering where
And what I was, whence thither brought, and how.
Not distant far from thence a murmuring sound
Of waters issu'd from a Cave and spread
Into a liquid Plain, then stood unmov'd
Pure as th' expanse of Heav'n; I thither went
With unexperienc'd thought, and laid me down
On the green bank, to look into the clear
Smooth Lake, that to me seem'd another Skie.
As I bent down to look, just opposite,
A shape within the watry gleam appear'd
Bending to look on me, I started back,
It started back, but pleas'd I soon return'd,
Pleas'd it return'd as soon with answering looks
Of sympathy and love; there I had fixt
Mine eyes till now, and pin'd with vain desire,
Had not a voice thus warn'd me, What thou seest,
What there thou seest fair Creature is thy self,
With thee it came and goes: but follow me,
And I will bring thee where no shadow stays
Thy coming, and thy soft imbraces he
Whose image thou art, him thou shalt enjoy
Inseperably thine, to him shalt bear
Multitudes like thy self, and thence be call'd
Mother of human Race: What could I doe,
But follow straight, invisibly thus led;
Till I espy'd thee, fair indeed and tall,
Under a Platan, yet methought less fair,
Less winning soft, less amiably mild,
Than what smooth watry image; back I turn'd,
Thou following cryd'st aloud, Return fair Eve,
Whom fly'st thou, whom thou fly'st, of him thou art,
His flesh, his bone; to give thee being I lent
Out of my side to thee, nearest my heart
Substantial Life, to have thee by my side
Henceforth an individual solace dear;
Part of my Soul I seek thee, and thee claim
My other half: with that thy gentle hand
Seis'd mine, I yielded, and from that time see
How beauty is excell'd by manly grace
And wisdom, which alone is truly fair.
So spake our general Mother,——

ERRATA.

In last Tuesday's Spectator, *Col.* 3. *Line* 23. *for* Ancoza *read* Aucora. *Ibid. Line* 53, *for Papers read Paper.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Thursday, the 13th Day of March, will be presented a Play call'd, The Orphan, or the Unhappy Marriage. To which (At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality) will be added a Farce of one Act only, call'd, The Country Wake. By Her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

At the Desire of several Persons of Quality.

AT Punch's Theatre Covent-Garden, this present Thursday at 12 at Noon will be performed the last New Opera, called, The Beauteous Sacrifice, where Punch performs the Part of Captain. Note, the Boxes are laid open to the Pit, at half a Crown a Ticket; which may be taken out at Bickerstaff's Coffee-House in Russel-street, or at the Door of the Theatre this Morning. With that so much surprising Machine after the British Manner: The same will be performed at six in the Evening, at the usual Rates, Boxes half a Crown, Pit One Shilling and Six Pence.

Lately Publish'd,

Mr. Madox's History of the Exchequer of the King's of England: Giving an Account of the King's Court, the great Officers and Judicature of that Court, the Crown Revenue, the Exchequer, Accounts, and other Business there, &c. The whole taken from Records. With a Copy of the Ancient Dialogue, call'd Gervasius Tiburiensis. Never printed before. Sold by R. Knaplock at the Bishop's Head in St. Paul's Church-yard. N. B. There being only a small Number left of the Impression, in a short Time the Price will be raised.

At Stationer's Hall near Ludgate, This present Thursday, the 13th Instant, will be perform'd an extraordinary Entertainment of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, especially the former. A young Gentlewoman will perform that the learn'd Mr. Weely several Years, besides great Variety of Entertainments too long to be inserted here. To begin exactly at seven a Clock. Ticket to be delivered at Mr. Young's at the Dolphin and Crown, in St. Paul's Church-yard, and at the Hall-Door, at 3 s. each.

Lately Published in a small Character, and Printed singly, these following Sermons of Bp. Beveridge, that Numbers of them may be dispers'd for the Publick Good, viz. The Wisdom of being Holy, price 4 d. Good-fryday to be kept by all Christians, price 3 d. The Nature and Necessity of Restitution, price 3 d. Likewise his private Thoughts upon Religion, 12mo. price in Sheep 1 s. 2 d. Necessity of publick Prayer, and frequent Communion, 12mo. price in Sheep 1 s. N. B. Those that take a Hundred have 10 Gratis. All printed for Rich. Smith in Exeter Exchange in the Strand, where ready Money may be had for any Library of Books.

This Day is Publish'd,

An Essay on the Great Affinity and mutual Agreement of the two Professions of Divinity and Law, and on the joint Interests of Church and State. In vindication of the Clergies concerning their solve in Political Matters. Containing Reflections on some popular Mistakes, with respect to the Original of our Civil Constitution, and to the English Loyalty. In a Letter from a Clergyman of the Church of England to an eminent Lawyer, price 1 s. Printed for Bernard Lintott between the Two Temple Gates, and Sold by Richard Wilkin at the King's Head in St. Paul's Churchyard; of whom may be had Penitential Meditations on the Lords Prayer, corrected by Joseph Trapp, A. M.

The Danger and Folly of Evil Courses, being a Practical Discourse, shewing the base and vile Nature of Sin, and the dreadful Consequences of it, as well in this World, as that which is to come; with such effectual Remedies, as if rightly applied, will prevent it, and bring Men to a true Love of God and Religion. Partly extracted from the Writings of Archbishop Tillotson, Archbishop Sharp, Bp. Taylor, Chillingworth, Patrick, Dr. Scott, Dr. Horneck, Dr. Lucas, Sherlock, Grabe, Mr. Kettlewell, Judge Hale, &c. By Mr. Francis Hewardine, Presbyter of the Church of England. Printed for D. Brown at the Black Swan without Temple-bar, price 1 s.

To be Sold by Auction on Wednesday the 19th Instant, at the Bull and Looking-Glass in Cornhill, over-against the Royal Exchange, the Shop-Goods of a Glass Man, deceased, consisting of several large Glasses in Carv'd and Gilt Frames, Glass Frames, and all sorts of arch'd Hanging Glasses, Chimney Glasses, and Dressing Glasses, with all sorts of fine Cabinets, Book Cases and Card Tables, and all sorts of Cabinet Work. The Goods to be seen this Day, and Catalogues to be had at the Place of Sale.

A Letter dated the 11th of this Instant March directed to one in London, is come to Hand, in which the Writer of it desired that Notice might be given of the Receipt of it in the Spectator; and therefore is here inserted, as also that the Person who wrote it, will be received, if he shall repair to the Dwelling-House, where it was directed.

There will be Choice of good Pads and Hunters at the Dolphin in Smithfield this present Thursday the 13th of this Instant, fresh out of Yorkshire.

Dr. Sydenham's compleat Method of curing almost all Diseases, and Description of their Symptoms. To which is now added, five Dissertations on the same Author, concerning the Plague, Gout, Hysterical Passion, Dropsie and Rheumatism. Abridged and faithfully Translated out of the Original Latin, with short and useful Notes on the former Parts written by a late learned Physician, and never before Printed. The Fourth Edition. Printed for Tho. Bowles and Rich. Parker under the Piazza of the Royal Exchange.

To be Sold a fine young Bay Stone Horse, come five, well broke, fit for Hunting, or the Road. He stands at the White Hart in Shug lane, at the upper end of the Hay-market, inquire there for Edward Tudor. Note, The Horse has not paid Meat in him.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.